List the most prominent Catholic Universities of international renown.

The Catholic universities most widely recognized internationally include a relatively small group that repeatedly appear in global rankings, academic literature, and church-related lists.[1] [2] [3]

Flagship global names

- **Georgetown** University (Washington, D.C., USA) – Oldest Catholic university in the U.S., with major international profile in diplomacy, law, and international relations.[3] [4]
- University of **Notre Dame** (Indiana, USA) – Globally known for theology, philosophy, and a strong research profile in multiple disciplines.[2] [3]
- **Boston** College (Massachusetts, USA) – Jesuit research university with substantial influence in theology, education, and international programs.[2] [3]
- **Catholic University of America** (Washington, D.C., USA) – The U.S. bishops' national university, noted for theology, canon law, and philosophy.[5] [3]
- **Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore** (Milan and other campuses, Italy) – Largest private university in Europe and a central institution of Catholic higher education in Italy.[5] [2]
- **Université Catholique de Louvain / KU Leuven** tradition (Belgium) – Though KU Leuven is now formally pluralistic, the Louvain complex remains historically the key reference point for Catholic higher education in Belgium and beyond.[5]

Major Jesuit and Catholic research universities

- **Fordham** University (New York, USA) – Jesuit, strong in humanities, social sciences, and law, with a sizable international student body.[3] [2]
- **Villanova** University (Pennsylvania, USA) – Augustinian, nationally prominent in the U.S. with growing international visibility.[2] [3]
- **Santa Clara** University (California, USA) – Jesuit, influential on the U.S. West Coast, especially in business and engineering.[3] [2]
- **Loyola** University Chicago (Illinois, USA) – Large Jesuit university with significant health sciences and global programs.[6] [5]
- **Marquette** University (Wisconsin, USA) – Jesuit institution with recognized programs in law, health, and communications.[7] [3]
- **Saint Louis** University (Missouri, USA) – Jesuit, with an established campus in Madrid and broad international outreach.[7] [2]

Prominent Catholic universities outside North America

- **Universidade Católica Portuguesa** (Lisbon and other campuses, Portugal) – Leading Catholic institution in the Lusophone world.[2] [5]
- **Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile** (Santiago, Chile) – One of Latin America's top universities overall, not just among Catholic schools.[1] [5]
- **Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio)** and other PUCs in Brazil – Highly regarded in Brazilian and Latin American higher education.[1] [5]
- **Universidad Católica Argentina (UCA)** (Buenos Aires, Argentina) – Nationally prominent Catholic institution with regional recognition.[1] [2]
- **Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth** (Lebanon) – Historic French-language Catholic university with wide influence in the Middle East.[5] [1]
- **Ukrainian Catholic University** (Lviv, Ukraine) – Small but internationally noted for its intellectual life and post-Soviet Catholic witness.[8] [5]

Pontifical and Rome-based institutions

- **Pontifical Gregorian University** (Rome) – Jesuit-run, historically one of the most important centers for Catholic theology, philosophy, and canon law.[2] [5]
- **Pontifical Lateran University** (Rome) – Sometimes called the "Pope's university," with strong canonical and theological faculties.[5] [2]
- **Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum)** (Rome) – Dominican institution, prominent especially in Thomistic philosophy and theology.[2] [5]
- **Pontifical University of the Holy Cross** (Santa Croce, Rome) – Opus Dei–run, increasingly important for ecclesiology and canon law.[5] [2]
- **Salesian Pontifical University** (Rome) – Known for catechetics, education, and pastoral studies.[2] [5]

Representative overview table

Region	Especially prominent Catholic universities	
North America	Georgetown, Notre Dame, Boston College, Catholic University of America, Fordham, Villanova, Santa Clara	
Latin America	Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, PUC-Rio and other Brazilian PUCs, Universidad Católica Argentina	
Europe	Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Université Catholique de Louvain tradition, Universidade Católica Portuguesa	
Middle East	Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth	
Eastern Europe	Ukrainian Catholic University	
Rome (Holy See)	Gregoriana, Lateran, Angelicum, Holy Cross, Salesian Pontifical University	[2] [5] [8]

Would you prefer that this list emphasize theological/ecclesiastical importance (e.g., pontifical universities and theology faculties) or broad academic/research reputation in secular rankings?

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1. https://www.unirank.org/religious/top/christian-catholic/
2. https://globalcatholicresourcecenter.com/highly-ranked-catholic-colleges-university/
3. https://www.collegetransitions.com/blog/best-catholic-colleges/
4. https://www.usnews.com/education/best-global-universities/articles/considering-a-catholic-university-heres-what-to-know
5. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catholic_higher_education
6. https://www.collegeraptor.com/college-rankings/details/TotalEnrollment/Religious-Affiliation/Roman-Catholic/
7. https://www.slu.edu/news/2021/april/top-catholic-college.php
8. https://www.globalcatholiceducation.org/catholicuniversities
9. https://www.niche.com/colleges/search/best-catholic-colleges/
10. https://scholarships360.org/college-admissions/catholic-colleges/
11. https://www.reddit.com/r/Catholicism/comments/1h6wzh1/the_definitive_list_of_truly_catholic_colleges/
12. https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/college/
13. https://catholiciu.edu/affiliations/
14. https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/slideshows/see-which-catholic-university-ranked-highest
15. https://www.reddit.com/r/Catholicism/comments/1onsroy/wondering_about_best_catholic_universities_in_the/